



Horbury Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

and

Cleansing Superintendent

for the year

1953

E. F. RICHLEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent



HORBURY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE YEAR

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E. F. Richley, M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.
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HORBURY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
1953

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor E. Briggs J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor G. Senior

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor H.V. Bennett (Chairman)

Councillor R.L. Arundale

Councillor R. Bate

Councillor E. Briggs

Councillor P. Cooper

Councillor F.L. Jagger

Councillor J.M. Oddie, J.P.

Councillor H. Scott

Councillor G. Senior

Councillor H. Wilkinson

Councillor F. Wilson, J.P., M.M.



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C O N T E N T S

	Page
Remarks	1
Section A-Sanitary Inspection of the District ..	2
Section B-Refuse Collection and Disposal	5
Section C-Salvage	8
Section D-Inspection and Supervision of Food.. ..	10
Section E-Food and Drugs Act, 1938.. .. .	13
Section F-Pet Shops, Rag and Flock Storage	15
Section G-Factories.. .. .	16
Section H-Closet Accommodation	17
Section I-Housing	18
Section J-Petroleum Act	22
Section K-Pestology.. .. .	22
Section L-Rodent Control.. .. .	23
Section M-Atmospheric Pollution	24



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT
FOR THE YEAR 1953.

October 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Horbury Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my NINTH ANNUAL REPORT dealing with the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year 1953.

During the year the foundations have been laid for events which in the future will leave their mark indelibly on public health. Until the Minister of Health has decided how much of the Report of the Working Party on the Recruitment, Training and Qualifications of Sanitary Inspectors is to be implemented the answers will not be known to such questions as :- Will the duties remain unaltered or will the Sanitary Inspector lose some and gain others - will the emphasis on some aspects of his work increase and on others decrease? The past year has shown that with increased legislation and acceleration in certain sections of public health work a corresponding lessening of vigilance in other sections has inevitably taken place. To each and every citizen their public health problem is a major and urgent problem but to the Inspector who has to deal with each and every problem lies the difficult task of grading the work in order of urgency in accordance with his physical capacity to check, investigate and remedy.

Housing work has increased once more during the year and if the plans for Slum Clearance and Re-development are to bear fruit within a reasonable period much more work will have to be carried out in the near future. The importance of properly detailed inspection in this work, involving as it does, perhaps considerable personal loss to owners, cannot be over-emphasised.

Much more work has been carried out in an endeavour to stimulate the retailers interest in clean food but it would seem that when the Food and Drugs Amendment Bill becomes Law it will lack any sting in it's tail and the policy of gentle persuasion in food hygiene will continue.

The de-control of slaughtering was announced in November by the Government with the intention of removing controls in the early summer. This has now taken place and there has been no interruption in meat supplies. The private slaughterhouse in Horbury has of course meant a further increase in inspection work but to my mind this is of major importance and cannot be neglected.

Atmospheric pollution and it's appalling effects has received much publicity but inadequate legal powers have deterred resolute action being taken. The continual emission of brown and yellow smoke not covered by the Law is in my opinion a far greater nuisance than black smoke over a period of three minutes every half hour.

Throughout the year the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee have given much time and thought in dealing with health problems and I am grateful to them for dealing honestly and fairly with the difficulties that have arisen. To the other Officers of the Council I offer my sincere thanks for their help and teamwork.

SECTION A

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

The following is a summary of inspections made during the year:-

Nuisances, housing and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,635
Food shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Choked drains and drainage work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Demolition work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Atmospheric pollution, rainwater gauges	...	...	...	...	...	...	414
Factories and workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Public houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inspections of piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Rat and mouse infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Refuse collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Water Supply:-							
Samples for Bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Samples for Chemical examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

3,109

WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Damp	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Rat and mouse infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Nuisances from obnoxious smells	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective soil and rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective doors...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective kitchen ranges and hearths, etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Infestation of Vermin...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water closet drains provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Urinal drains provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. pedestals	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective W.C. overflow	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Urinal flush provided...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective urinal flushes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soil pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Water in the cellar	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Choked gullies	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Breach of Factories Act, 1937.	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Defective or insanitary sink	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective roofs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective wallplaster...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water closet seats provided...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Wet ground against building...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leaking supply cistern	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Breach of the Housing Act, 1936.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Breach of the Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Breach of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Unfit houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Defective water taps	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

(Contd.)

Absence of sink waste drain	...	...	...	...	6
Rainwater drain provided	...	...	...	...	2
Defective W.C. drains	...	...	...	...	6
Insanitary urinal	...	...	...	...	1
Defective woodwork	...	...	...	...	5
Defective manhole cover	...	...	...	...	1
Wet ashbins	...	...	...	...	6
Breaches of the Petroleum Act, 1928	...	...	...	...	1
Gullies provided...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	10
Gully ~~grates~~ provided	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous paths	...	...	...	...	1

Total..... 377

WORK CARRIED OUT ON COUNCIL HOUSES UNDER THE SUPERVISION
OF THE SURVEYOR FROM
JANURARY, 1953 to DECEMBER, 1954.

Defective roofs...	...	...	...	...	55
Defective plastering	...	...	...	...	87
Defective pointing	...	...	...	...	39
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	...	177
Defective sink tiles	...	...	...	...	12
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	16
Defective taps	...	...	...	...	20
Defective ball-valves...	...	...	...	...	103
Defective sink wastes...	...	...	...	...	39
Defective gas boilers...	...	...	...	...	23
Defective hot water system	...	...	...	...	1
Defective draining boards	...	...	...	...	36
Defective windows and catches	...	...	...	...	67
Defective doors and door furniture	...	...	...	...	110
Defective wood floors	...	...	...	...	24
Electrical defects	...	...	...	...	50
Burst pipes	...	...	...	...	82
Gas leaks...	...	...	...	...	66
Defective chimney pots	...	...	...	...	8
Defective clothes posts	...	...	...	...	51
Defective cistern supports	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. pots	...	...	...	...	13
Defective W.C. seats	...	...	...	...	18
Defective gutters	...	...	...	...	34
Defective gates...	...	...	...	...	90
Defective weatherboards and thresholds	...	...	...	...	16
Defective cupboards	...	...	...	...	3
Defective fences	...	...	...	...	4

(Contd)

Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective footpath	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective concrete floor	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	13
Defective cylinders and supports	...	...	...	...	...	11
Defective fireback boilers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective washbasins	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective gulleys	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective drawers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. joints	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective flush pipe joints	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective fallpipes	...	...	...	...	...	18
Glazing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hearth tiles	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective bath	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective over-flow pipes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gas fittings	...	...	...	...	...	4

1,331

Of these, 1,061 have been allocated to contractors and 270 to direct labour.

This is an increase of 163 repairs compared with 1952, the increase comprising mainly of gates and fences, fallpipes, clothes posts, electrical defects, plaster, fireplaces, pointing, roofs, burst pipes, draining boards and windows and catches.

148 more repairs than the previous year were allocated to contractors and 15 more to direct labour.

SECTION B

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by Council employees under my direction and supervision with the Councils own motor vehicles.

Two vehicles are used solely for this purpose; one seven cubic yard "Bantam" KARRIER and one seven cubic yard "Dennis". Both machines are specially designed for refuse collection, having properly constructed metal closing shutter

A weekly collection is maintained and forms the basis of an organised "beat" system, each vehicle being used on a regular day in a set district.

The approximate number of receptacles for which the Department is responsible for collection is 2,600 ashbins, 13 pail closets, 3 privies and 8 cesspools.

The whole of the townships refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Sand and Gravel Tip, Horbury Junction. A small destructor is situated at this tip and old bedding, etc., is disposed of here.

The work of refuse collection has proceeded in a regular and efficient manner. Very few complaints have been received and ashbins have been emptied on 134,810 occasions, a total of 2,675 tons 10 cwts., of refuse having been collected and tipped.

There has been no dissension between the loading teams who have carried out their work well and with good spirit. After holiday periods, over-time work has been necessary to keep the collection up to date and those arrangements have proved satisfactory.

We have been very fortunate in keeping the vehicles on the road every working day of the year and in carrying out repairs and maintainance during the nights and week-ends..

The "Karrier" vehicle is now in it's tenth working year and the time is not far away when the vehicle will have to be replaced.

The Municipal Ashbin Scheme has continued throughout the year and is appreciated by the ratepayers.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL
FOR THE YEAR
1953-1954.

Expenditure					£.	s.	d.
Licences							
Insurances							
Petrols and Oils							
Repairs and Renewals							
	Transport	...	...	...	685	1	7
Disinfectants	...	...	...	...	12	0	0
Tipping charges	...	...	...	...	22	18	5
Protective clothing	...	...	...	...	69	0	8
Bath-tins	...	...	...	...	21	0	9
Cesspool emptying	...	...	...	...	56	17	6
Rents, Rates and Water	...	...	...	...	1	10	0
Sundries	...	...	...	...	5	9	4
Tools and Equipment	...	...	...	...		10	3
					874	8	6
Wages					2680	17	10
Foremans wages (percentage)					131	8	0
National Insurance							
Sick and Holiday Pay 16%							
Superannuation							
Pensions					449	19	4
					4136	13	8
Income.					£.	s.	d.
Refuse collection					-	-	-
Salvage Profit					126	18	0
					£126	18	0
Net cost					£4009	15	8
Provision of Ashbins					£.	s.	d.
Total Cost for the Year					91	14	2
Cost per house per year					0	0	7.9

WEIGHTS OF HOUSE REFUSE.

Month	Ashbins	Weight		
		T.	C.	Q.
January	12,538	268	-10	- 0
February	10,310	212	- 0	- 0
March	12,753	252	- 0	- 0
April	10,183	204	- 0	- 0
May	10,802	202	- 0	- 0
June	12,967	256	- 0	- 0
July	10,302	200	- 0	- 0
August	10,320	196	- 0	- 0
September	12,535	244	- 0	- 0
October	10,346	200	- 0	- 0
November	10,314	204	- 0	- 0
December	11,440	237	- 0	- 0

Total No. of bins 134,810

Total Weight 2,675 -10 - 0

SECTION C

SALVAGE.

The price of waste paper remained steady throughout the year. During September the baling of waste paper was re-organised and a piece-work method of baling was introduced. Under this scheme the refuse loaders and drivers were divided into teams of two men. Each team carries out the baling of paper for one full week and is paid at the rate of 3/- per bale, i.e. 1/6d. each man per bale. The size and nature of the bales is clearly defined in written instructions posted in the baling shed. The Foreman checks the number and size of each bale the following morning and makes a written record in his daily report book.

ANALYSIS OF SALVAGE ——— 1953-1954.

Month	Paper			Kitchen Waste			Metal			Various			Total Wt.			Cash Total														
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	S.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	S.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	S.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	S.	d.						
April	10	-16	-2	70	-7	-3	2	-14	-1	9	-9	-10 $\frac{1}{2}$							13	-10	-3	79	-17	-1 $\frac{1}{2}$						
May	14	-0	-2	94	-17	-6	1	-14	-3	6	-14	-8	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	-6	1	-0	-0 (Tins)	1	-10	-0	16	-15	-3 $\frac{1}{2}$	103	-4	-8			
June	9	-13	-2	66	-9	-5	2	-17	-1	11	-1	-10	4	-4	-1	16	-17	-10	3	-3 (Rags)	3	-11	-6	16	-18	-3	97	-19	-9	
July	5	-9	-2	41	-2	-10	2	-15	-0	10	-13	-1 $\frac{1}{2}$												8	-4	-2	51	-15	-11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
August	11	-0	-2	79	-2	-10	1	-16	-2	7	-1	-5												12	-17	-0	86	-4	-3	
September	11	-4	-3	77	-1	-4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	-4	-1	10	-14	-5						1	-2	-0	1	-13	-0	15	-11	-0	89	-8	-9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
October	11	-0	-0	77	-16	-11	2	-4	-0	6	-12	-0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	-6									13	-4	-1 $\frac{1}{2}$	84	-10	-5	
November	5	-9	-1	35	-10	-1	2	-11	-3	7	-15	-3												8	-1	-0	45	-5	-4	
December	10	-18	-3	76	-19	-0	2	-9	-0	7	-7	-0												13	-7	-3	84	-6	-0	
January	11	-8	-1	74	-3	-7	Collection ceased 23rd Decem., 1954.			4	-9	-3	14	-1	-6									15	-18	-0	88	-5	-1	
February	10	-1	-2	68	-9	-9																		10	-1	-2	18	-9	-9	
March	15	-6	-1	103	-5	-7																		15	-6	-1	103	-5	-7	
Total	126	-16	-3	865	-6	-1 $\frac{1}{2}$	22	-6	-3	77	-9	-7	8	-15	-0	31	-2	-6	2	-5	-3	6	-14	-6	159	-16	-3	980	-12	-8 $\frac{1}{2}$

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This method of baling has served as an incentive to collect more paper which is reflected in the annual total of 126 tons as against 104 tons the previous year in addition to which the men welcome the opportunity to increase their wages.

The collection of kitchen waste ceased in December and at long last the street bins which have caused so much nuisance from a public health aspect are withdrawn. The best of these bins were used in the Municipal Ashbin Scheme and the majority were scrapped and sold as waste metal.

During this year a profit of £126 - 18 - 0 was made after clearing all expenses.

The total value of sales of salvage for the twelve months was £980 - 12 - 8½.

(The table for the analysis of the salvage over the year is enclosed.)

SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Milk and Dairies Regulations

Number of Milk Distributors on register — 15

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949.

Number of Licences in force for:-

	Dealers	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested Milk(Pasteurised)	5	1
Pastourised Milk	6	1
Storilised Milk	5	0

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Number of Licences in force:-

	Dealers	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested Milk	5	1

Sixteen inspections were made for the purpose of taking samples and inspecting for cleanliness. In very few cases dirty milk bottles were found but if this did occur immediate action was taken to rectify the matter.

Meat and Other Foods

Licensed slaughterhouses	2
Registered slaughterhouses	2

Owing to the Government control of slaughtering these premises have not been used in the year under review.

Meat allocated and inspected at Wakefield is brought to the Co-operative slaughterhouse, Queen Street. This centre is used as a sub-allocation point, where each butcher collects his allocation. Regular visits are made and the meat is again inspected before it is moved to the shops.

In no case was it found necessary to make any seizure of unsold food or diseased meat, but the following, which upon examination were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption, were surrendered to me and destroyed:-

The total weight of unsound food was 9 cwts 1 qtr 1st 8 lbs.

	cwts	-	qtrs	-	sts	-	lbs	-	ozs.
1 tin of apricots...	...								15 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 tin of apple, prunes and custard									4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Butter	...					1	-	3	- 0
Bacon...	...	1	-	0	-	0	-	12	- 12
16 tins of beans	...					1	-	1	- 0
1 tin of brisling...	...								3 $\frac{3}{4}$
2 tins of beef loaf	...							1	- 8
Beef (Hind)...	...					1	-	7	- 0
1 jar of sliced beetroot	...							1	- 5
3 jars of crab	...								6
Cheese	...					1	-	12	- 4
22 tins of cherries	...					1	-	5	- 8
1 tin of cream	...								6
1 tin of carrots	...							1	- 4
6 tins of coffee	...								12
1 tin of custard pudding	...								4 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 tins of corned beef	...					1	-	0	- 0
18 tins of Damsons	...					1	-	0	- 7
31 pakts of dates...	...					1	-	0	- 2
17 tins of Liquid eggs	...					2	-	0	- 8
1 jar of fruit salad	...								6
13 bags of flour	...					1	-	0	- 11
2 tins of Grapefruit	...							2	- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 tin of Gooseberries	...							2	- 0
1 tin of grapes	...							1	- 12
Ham	...	1	-	1	-	1	-	9	- 4
1 case of haddock...	...					2	-	1	- 0
27 tins of evaporated milk	...					1	-	0	- 3

	cwts-	qtrs	-	sts	-	lbs	-	ozs.
31 tins of condensed milk...	...	1	-	0	-	1	-	8
Madiera loaf ...	...					6	-	0
14 tins of ox tongue (& spread)...	...	2	-	0	-	6	-	14
2 tins of orange slices ...	...					1	-	6
28 tins of pork luncheon meat ...	...			1	-	4	-	11
9 tins of peas ...	...					8	-	15
Split peas ...	...			1	-	11	-	0
12 tins of plums ...	...					11	-	0
4 tins of pears ...	...					6	-	0
5 tins of peaches ...	...					5	-	4
6 tins of chopped pork ...	...					9	-	8
Prunes ...	...					1	-	4
2 tins of pilchards...	...					1	-	0
1 jar of pickle ...	...							6
1 pigs lungs ...	...					1	-	4
1 pigs head and trimmings...	...			1	-	4	-	0
5 tins of rabbit ...	...					5	-	0
1 jar of raspberry jam ...	...					1	-	0
4 tins of strawberries ...	...					3	-	12
Beef Sausages...	...	2	-	0	-	13	-	0
Pork sausages...	...	1	-	0	-	4	-	8
6 tins of salmon ...	...					2	-	2
71 tins of sardines...	...			1	-	6	-	0
4 tins of steak ...	...					4	-	0
1 tin of steak and vegetables ...	...					1	-	0
2 bottles of salad cream ...	...							14
Tongue ...	...					3	-	8
Veal ...	...			1	-	12	-	8
1 bottle of lemon squash								

9 - 1 - 1 - 8 - 14 $\frac{3}{4}$

Meat and Retail Vehicles

Butchers shops ...	...	...	15
Retail meat vehicles ...	...	...	5

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Seventeen licences are recorded in the register; this Act is strictly observed and a captive bolt pistol is used for the slaughter of all pigs.

SECTION E

-13-

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year 1953 the following samples were purchased in the District by the County Inspector and submitted for analysis within the above Act's provisions:-

Milk		Drugs		Other Foods	
Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated
17	0	0	0	8	0

No prosecutions were undertaken nor cautions issued during the year.

Registration of Food Premises

Number registered for the manufacture of preserved and pressed food 8

Number registered for the sale and manufacture of ice cream 1

Number registered for the sale of ice cream ...23

Bakehouses

Number on register 8

Six visits were made to those premises and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

In one bakehouse an electric hot air hand dryer was installed for the use of the staff after washing and this has proved very successful.

Fish Fryers.

Number on the register 11

Eight visits were made to fish fryers and a high standard of cleanliness has been maintained. Although there has been an improvement in recent years in the type of box used to convey fish, it would, in my opinion, be a great step forward to use containers once only and be of a type which could be destroyed after delivery.

Ice cream is manufactured at one premises only by the cold mix method.

Six visits were made to premises selling ice cream but owing to the pressure of work no samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

The majority of small retail shops are selling ice cream from well-known large manufacturers. In all cases the ice cream is pre-packed and stored in ice cream refrigerators.

Public Houses.

There are seventeen public houses and licensed premises in the district.

Six visits were made to such premises. At one public house an additional ladies W.C. was provided, new flushing apparatus supplied to the mens urinal and structural repairs carried out. At another, structural alterations were carried out and the building remodelled on modern lines including new W.C. accommodation.

Now that drinking glasses are more readily available there has been a noticeable absence of chipped glasses.

In one or two of the older type of public houses there is still some doubt as to the disposal of waste beer from used glasses, etc., and the breweries could help in this matter by a larger waste allowance to their managers.

General Food Shops.

160 visits have been made to food shops. On the whole these shops have been well-supervised and the standard of hygiene in the serving sections has been good although there is still the assistant who carefully wets a finger with the tongue to lift the wrapping paper. This is a practice which must cease. In the back premises, the most important section which the customer does not see, difficulty is often experienced owing to lack of space. This is a fault which will take many years of re-development to overcome. Especially in the mixed food trades, storage and waste storage is a difficult problem, and I feel sure much food, tinned and otherwise, becomes unsound and unfit for human consumption due to such conditions. With better co-operation between Local Authority Departments and constant awareness of public hygiene requirements the mistakes of shop construction in the past will not be repeated.

Pet Animals.

The Pet Animals Act, 1951, which deals with all animals (including fishes, i.e., all vertebrates) gives a Local Authority power to make conditions of licence controlling accommodation as regards size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, supply of feeding stuffs and drink, precautions against infectious diseases, appropriate steps to be taken in case of fire, etc.

Two persons were granted licences to keep pet shops and the conditions have been complied with.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

The above Act controls the manufacture and storage of Rag Flock and provides for the registration of premises in all cases where rag flock and other filling materials as defined by the Act are used in any form of upholstering or stuffing or bedding or toys, baby carriages, etc., excluding the re-making or re-conditioning of any article.

The object is to secure the use of clean filling materials and registers of consignments must be kept by the manufacturer and user so that materials can be traced to their source.

During the year two licences were renewed to Manufacturers and two registrations to upholstering premises.

West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951.

Part XIV

The number of hairdressers and barbers registered under the above Act are:-

Ladies

5

Gentlemen

5

The premises have been kept in a reasonably clean condition and no complaints have been received.

The number of food-hawkers registered is 15. The majority of these have modern, well-maintained vans and give good service.

Piggeries.

There are 30 premises used for the keeping of pigs in the area. A register is kept with full details of each premises together with a plan showing the exact siting of

the piggery.

-16-

Each of these has been visited and instructions given where-ever necessary regarding lime-washing, manure removal, etc.

SECTION G

FACTORIES

Fifty-six mechanical and eighteen non-mechanical factories are on the register in the district, composed of the following:-

Mechanical Power

Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Automobile Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
General Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Rug Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Leather Goods Makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Food Preparation premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Oil Refinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shoddy manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mungo Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmith	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Upholsterer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rug Material Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sports Goods Manufacturer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dressmaker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sheet metal Worker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wagon Repairer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wool Spinners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cloth Dyer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wire Spring Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch Repairer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fireplace Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Railway Wagon and Coach Body Builder	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumber	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Total... 56

Non-Mechanical Power

-17-

Cycle Repairers...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stonemason	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rag Sorter	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Printer ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sports Goods Maker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dressmaker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Baker ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Painters and Decorators	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tailors ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

Total... 18

SECTION H

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Practically the whole of sanitary conveniences in connection with residential and business premises in the district are on the water carriage system with the exception of a small number of pail closets which are inconvertible owing to the fact that they are situated in outlying parts of the district where sufficient sewers are not available.

The total number of closets are as follows:-

Dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,167
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Public houses...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Public conveniences...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Schools...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52

Total... 5,469

During the year 300 yards of 9" sewers were extended (Police Buildings) and 495 yards of 6" sewers (foul and surface, Coronation Drive)

SECTION I
HOUSING.

-18-

Housing Statistics

Number of dwelling houses in the district 2764
Number of back-to-back houses included in above ... 18

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 240
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 561
(2) (a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations ... 13
(b) Number of inspections made for purpose ... 62
(3) Number of dwelling houses needing further action:-
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 47
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3) (a) above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 0

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 337

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, Housing Act, 1936:-

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 0
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
(a) By owners ... 0
(b) By Local Authority ... 0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners... 3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners... 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation... 21

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... 13

(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... 5

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made... 8

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Order in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... 0

4. Housing Act, 1936- Part IV- Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year... 3
(unsatisfactory tenants)

(2) Number of families dwelling therein... 3

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein... 17

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... 0

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases... 0

NEW HOUSES

5. Number of new houses provided during the year:-

By the Local Authority:- Permanent type... 54

Temporary type... 0

By Private Enterprise... 5

6. Housing Act, 1949.

Any action in connection with the Section 20 "Grants to persons other than local authorities for the improvement of housing accommodation... 0

Remarks.

During the year 54 houses were erected by the Local Authority and 5 by private owners.

In the housing table it will be seen that the total number of applicants on the registers at the 2nd. March 1953, was 509 and at the 31st. March, 1954, was 397. In the six months immediately following this date a further 70 applications were received.

It would therefore at first appear to be a considerable overall reduction in the numbers awaiting houses but an analysis of the reasons does not prove this to be true.

In November 1953, a form of renewal was sent to all classes except No. 6 and at the time it was felt that this class would not be dealt with. Of 514 renewal forms sent out only 243 were returned, the biggest reduction taking place in No. 5 class e.g. that is persons residing outside the district but working in Horbury. It seems to me therefore that as new houses grow in numbers so does the tendency for population movement to increase. This does not mean large increases or decreases in the Horbury Urban District as such but it does give a deceptive description of housing "needs" from the registers. This is shown by the fact that although the population of Horbury has remained comparatively unchanged for many years the numbers on the registers have fluctuated considerably from year to year and the total applications were in November 1951 only 367.

If the present trend in the population of the over 65 years of age group increase continues it seems to me the Council have adopted a very wise course in concentrating building operations on
i) Old persons bungalows and Sunset bungalows for this class and ii) On three-bedroom type houses for growing families.

As the time is now at hand when Slum Clearance and Re-development plans will be brought into operations I feel that some consideration must be given to the terrace type of house which could be built on smaller sites at proportionally less cost with the big advantage of cheaper rental.

Horbury's housing programme and the execution of building works has been vigorous but there will of course always be some dissatisfaction amongst applicants for houses, nevertheless the House Letting Committee have given consideration to every case and as is possible in a small compact area, have dealt not only fairly and without bias but have also given that sympathetic human touch which makes a great difference in such a community.

Register	No. of applications at 2.3.53.	No. of applications at 31.3.54	No. of applications less than 6 months old since 31.3.54
1. Overcrowding numerical...	2	2	-
2. Overcrowding sexual and inadequate accommodation. (The Council have adopted a standard of their own. Many cases in this class are not overcrowded under the Housing Act, 1936....	22	10	12
3. Young persons in lodgings	70	35	21
4. Aged persons for Bungalows and two-bedroom type.....	28	29	4
5. Persons residing outside the district and employed in Horbury.....	154	59	8
6. Persons residing outside and employed outside the district.....	91	94	7
7. Applications in general..	142	118	12
8. Sunset Houses.....	-	50	6
	509	397	70



SECTION J

-22-

PETROLEUM ACTS

There are twenty-one premises in the Urban District licenced for the storage of either petroleum spirit or mixtures in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum Consolidation Acts, 1928 and 1936, viz: nineteen for the storage of cellulose spirit and two for the storage of cellulose paint.

Nineteen of the premises store the spirit in underground steel tanks fitted with pumps, while on the remaining premises it is kept in steel drums stored in specially constructed fire-proof above-ground stores.

Regular visits have been made to ^{see} that the Regulations are being complied with. The total number of gallons of petroleum spirit and mixtures involved is 17,700.

During the year one pump was found defective and causing a leakage into the ground. The petrol fumes were found to be entering an air brick used for ventilation under a dressmakers workshop floor. The fumes entering this workshop were dangerous and it was necessary to have it cleared and thoroughly aired before work could be resumed.

The pump was immediately repaired and the danger overcome.

SECTION K

PESTOLOGY.

Fifty-nine visits were made in connection with infestations with cockroaches, wood beetles, etc.

With the use of modern insecticides and disinfestation methods there has been a marked decrease in bed-bug and flea infestations but the wood beetle infestations are fairly numerous. During the year £2 -11 -0 was recovered from occupiers for insecticides used by the Department in such cases.

Various cases of moth infestation have been dealt with both in the factory and in the home.

Modern building methods involving reduced air space together with up-to-date heating and cooking apparatus such as coke and gas ovens with a proportionate reduction in chimney ventilation are causing increased condensation

and numerous complaints are received regarding the appearance of moulds and growths on walls in new houses. When not treated these walls have a resultant bacterial growth and are ideal places for infestations of plaster and fungus beetles.

The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have been most helpful in examining samples and their advice has been invaluable.

Disinfection of Premises.

The disinfection of all premises after cases of infectious disease is carried out after the removal of the patient to the isolation hospital or after the recovery if nursed at home, the method used being formaldehyde vapour.

Premises were also disinfected after deaths from other causes.

Number of houses disinfected after infectious disease ...	23
Number of houses disinfected after death from other causes ...	8

SECTION I

RODENT CONTROL.

A Planning and Advisory Workable Area Committee composed of officers from adjacent areas, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and representatives from the Coal Board, Docks and Inland Waterways and British Railways meet quarterly to discuss current developments in rodent control. One of these meetings was held at Horbury Town Hall during 1953.

28 properties were inspected as a result of notification, 24 properties by survey under the Act and 289 premises when visited primarily for some other purpose.

30 infestations were found and dealt with.

210 visits were made for the purpose of laying baits, poisons etc.

In May a test was carried out on the public sewers and 23 manholes in various parts of the district were baited and three complete "takes" were recorded. The infested areas were treated and a further test carried out during June involving 10 manholes gave a negative test.

In the case of business premises a charge is made for treatment and during 1953 the sum of £4/10/0 was paid to the Council.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The research station in Horbury is operated by the Health Department and covers the Ossett Borough, Wakefield Rural District and Horbury Urban District.

At Carr Lodge Park are situated the deposit gauge, lead peroxide apparatus and rainwater gauge. The smoke filter is situated at the sewage works.

Monthly samples are submitted to the Public Analyst at Bradford.

From time to time smoke observations are taken relating to factory chimneys, and warnings issued where necessary.

With reference to my opening remarks concerning atmospheric pollution I would point out that the basis of general smoke abatement legislation in England and Wales is the Public Health Act 1875 as amended by the Public Health Act (Smoke Abatement) 1926 and now included in the Public Health Act 1936. The only material benefit since 1875 has been the power to make bye-laws under the 1926 Act. In effect therefore legislation has scarcely changed at all during the past three quarters of a century.

The existing law may be criticized on the following grounds:-

1. It deals only with action that may be taken after a "nuisance" has been committed and does nothing to prevent nuisances arising.

2. It is limited to smoke from industrial sources and includes no provision for the abatement of domestic smoke.

3. The principal section which defines Statutory Smoke Nuisances is infrequently used because of (a) the difficulty in law arising from the "best practicable means" and (b) the difficulty of proof of nuisance.

4. It is impossible to obtain from the Minister confirmation of bye-laws other than for BLACK smoke.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION IN 1953

-25-

Month.	Sulphur deposit Mgs./1,000 sq. cms.	Grit deposit tons per square mile	Atmospheric smoke pollution Mgs./ cubic metro
January....	16.8	16.26	0.285
February...	12.5	12.82	0.180
March.....	26.4	16.23	0.235
April.....	11.2	14.12	0.069
May.....	7.6	13.03	0.057
June.....	8.2	7.13	0.062
July.....	8.4	14.89	0.040
August.....	9.7	10.15	0.080
September..	13.6	11.38	0.063
October....	18.0	16.01	0.189
November...	15.9	10.50	0.112
December...	21.5	14.40	0.134
	169.8	156.92	1.506

RAINFALL FOR 1953.

The heaviest daily rainfall was on the 8th of November when .92 inches fell.

Month	Rainfall in inches	No. of days on which rain fell.
January.....	0.40	8
February.....	1.49	10
March.....	0.89	6
April.....	2.12	13
May.....	1.855	9
June.....	2.06	15
July.....	2.528	16
August.....	2.58	16
September....	1.215	11
October.....	1.34	9
November....	2.025	12
December....	0.93	18
	19.433	143

PERSONAL

-26-

Mr. A. Barker, my junior assistant has helped in every way possible in the Department during the year and my thanks are due to him for the loyal service rendered.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

E. F. RICHLEY
Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

